task involved and the non-availability of some of the old records, it is not possible to furnish a precise time frame for implementation.

Development of Coovam River in Madras

4823. SHRI ANBARASU ERA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal pending with the Union Government for the development of Coovam river in Madras City of inland water transport;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Building Construction Contracts from Foreign Contries

4824. SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an efficient building construction infrastructure is available in the country;

(b) if so, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to boost export of Civil Construction projects;

(c) whether the Government also propose to help the project exporters in securing building construction contracts from Gulf countries and Latin American Countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Over the years India has acquired considerable experience, expertise and capabilities for executing a wide range of projects in the area of civil construction.

(b) to (d). Government have taken a number of promotional measures to boost project exports to various countries including Gulf and Latin America. These include:-

Market Development Assistance for reimbursement of 50% of cost of preparation and submission of bids. Market Development Assistance for opening and operating overseas offices by consultancy firms. EXIM Bank, in addition to suppliers' credit and buyers' credit, has also been extending lines of credit to various developing countries with a view to encourage export of projects. Exemption of Income Tax upto 50% on earnings from exporters of projects and Consultancy Services under Section 80-HHB and 80-O of Income Tax Act respectively. Concessional Import Duty on import of project used machinery and equipment by the project exporters has also been allowed.

A Special Group has been

set up to evolve a strategy for promoting project exports in the Gulf in the post war situation. A Special Committee with inter-ministerial representation has been set up to expedite Government clearance for project exports through High-Level inter-ministerial discussions.

Irregularities in Nationalised Banks in Andhra Pradesh

4825. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of misappropriation/fraud cases reported/detected in various banks in Andhra Pradesh during the current financial year, so far, bank-wise;

(b) the amount involved in these cases, bank-wise; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to reover the money involved in the above cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The present data maintenance system does not yield State-wise information about number of frauds/misappropriation cases, amount involved and amount recovered in such cases. However, total number of frauds and amount involved therein as reported to Reserve Bank of India by 28 public sector banks in India during the period from 1.1.91 to 30.9.91 is given below:

No. of frauds	*Amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)*
936	3242.68

The amounts involved in respect of these frauds do not necessarily represent the loss which the banks may have to ultimately suffer as the banks do hold some security both primary and/or collateral in a number of cases which would be adjusted against the amounts due. Banks also hold insurance policies in many cases. Banks also file civil suits for the recovery of the amount involved in such cases.

Overdrafts of States

4826. PROF. KV. THOMAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the amount of overdraft of various States in their accounts with the Reserve Bank of India as on November 1, 1991?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): Three States were in overdraft in their accounts with the Reserve Bank of India as on November 1, 1991 as indicated below:-

		Amount of Overdraft (Rs. in crores)
1.	Bihar	7.50
2.	Kerala	26.21
3.	West Bengal	33.30

Trade Negotiations with Russian Republic

4827. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 261 on November 22, 1991 and state:

(a) the details of the trade agreement concluded with the Republic of Uzbekistan, and